

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 90-092

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

AMENDING ORDER NO. 88-134, REQUIRING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO TO CEASE AND DESIST DISCHARGING WASTE FROM ITS RICHMOND-SUNSET WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT AND FROM ITS SOUTHWEST OCEAN OUTFALL CONTRARY TO EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS IN ORDER NO. 90-093

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (Board) finds that:

1. On June 15, 1988, the Board adopted Order No. 88-106, revising waste discharge requirements for the City and County of San Francisco (City) for its Richmond-Sunset Water Pollution Control Plant and Southwest Ocean Outfall. This action represented final state concurrence on a waiver of secondary treatment requirements. EPA issued a 301(h)-modified permit for this discharge on July 7, 1988, although this permit action was stayed by requests for an evidentiary hearing.
2. On August 17, 1988, the Board adopted Order No. 88-134, requiring the City to cease and desist discharging waste from the above facilities contrary to the effluent limits in Order No. 88-106. The enforcement order established interim effluent limits for suspended solids and grease/oil and a compliance schedule for completing a new plant to replace the Richmond-Sunset plant.
3. On August 16, 1989, the Board adopted Order No. 89-139, amending the 1988 cease and desist order. The amendment added interim limits for turbidity and toxicity, and revised existing interim limits, to address compliance problems linked to the drought and to wet-weather decant discharges.
4. On February 7, 1990, the City announced its intention to withdraw its application for waiver of secondary treatment (Section 301(h) waiver).
5. On June 20, 1990, the Board adopted Order No. 90-093, revising waste discharge requirements for the City's Richmond-Sunset plant and Southwest Ocean Outfall. This order contains secondary treatment requirements consistent with the City's application withdrawal.

6. Order No. 90-093 moves the point of compliance from the combined discharge to the Richmond-Sunset plant discharge, thereby excluding decant from the Westside Transport. Accordingly, the interim limits no longer need to provide for episodes of decant discharge during wet weather. The order also revises effluent limits for BOD and suspended solids, and adds a percent removal requirement for these pollutants. The Richmond-Sunset plant is unable to meet the BOD and percent-removal limits. Interim limits for BOD are appropriate. No interim limits for percent-removal are necessary, given that the Richmond-Sunset plant provides only primary treatment and serves a combined sewer system.
7. This action is an order to enforce waste discharge requirements previously adopted by the Board. This action is therefore categorically exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15121 of the Resources Agency CEQA Guidelines.
8. The City and interested persons have been notified of the Board's intent to take this enforcement action, and have been provided an opportunity to submit written comments and appear at the public hearing.
9. At a public hearing on June 20, 1990, the Board heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- A. Order No. 88-134, a Cease and Desist Order issued to the City and County of San Francisco, shall be further amended as shown below.
- B. Finding 6 shall be revised to reflect effluent limits in the revised waste discharge requirements:
  6. The City is violating or threatening to violate several effluent limitations in Order No. 90-093:

| Parameter                         | Monthly<br>Average | Weekly<br>Average | Daily<br>Maximum |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| BOD (mg/l)                        | 30                 | 45                | --               |
| Suspended solids (mg/l)           | 30                 | 45                | --               |
| Grease and oil (mg/l)             | 25                 | 40                | 75               |
| Turbidity (NTU)                   | 75                 | 100               | 225              |
| Toxicity conc. (tu <sub>a</sub> ) | 1.5                | 2.0               | 2.5              |


- C. Provision B shall be revised to refer to Order No. 90-093.
- D. Provision C shall be revised to incorporate revised interim effluent limits:
- C. The City shall comply with the following interim effluent limitations pending the completion of tasks identified in section B. This order will have no effect on other effluent limitations or requirements of Order No. 90-093 that are already in effect.

| Parameter                     | Monthly<br>Average | Weekly<br>Average | Daily<br>Maximum |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| BOD (mg/l) (1)                | 193                | 290               | --               |
| (lb/day) (2)                  | 35,400             | 53,200            | --               |
| Suspended (mg/l) (1)          | 100                | 150               | --               |
| solids (lb/day) (2)           | 18,300             | 27,500            | --               |
| Grease (mg/l) (1)             | 45                 | 67                | 90               |
| and oil (lb/day) (2)          | 8,300              | 12,300            | 16,500           |
| Turbidity (NTU) (1)           | 75                 | 100               | 225              |
| Toxicity conc. ( $tu_a$ ) (3) | 2.5                | 4.0               | 4.0              |

Notes:

- (1) Concentration limits apply only during calendar months when average monthly flow is 19 million gallons per day (mgd) or greater. Calendar weeks that straddle two months should be included in the month containing the most days of that week.
- (2) Mass loading limits apply only during calendar months when average monthly flow is less than 19 mgd. Mass loading limits are based on interim limit concentrations at a 22 mgd flow rate (plant's average dry weather flow).
- (3) Toxicity concentration is defined as 100 divided by the  $LC_{50}$  concentration. The City shall determine the  $LC_{50}$  concentration using a 96-hour static renewal bioassay.
- (4) No percent removal requirement shall apply for BOD or suspended solids.

I, Steven R. Ritchie, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on June 20, 1990.



STEVEN R. RITCHIE  
Executive Officer